

Workplace & Corporate Law Research Group Seminar

Business and Economics

Department of Business Law & Taxation

- Date:** Wednesday 18 March 2009
- Time:** 12.30-2.00 pm
- Venue:** Lecture Theatre HB39, Building H, Monash University, Caulfield Campus
- Guest Speaker:** **Professor Joyce Sadka**

Joyce Sadka earned her doctorate degree in economics from Rice University and a three-year Juris Doctor degree from George Mason University School of Law. Over the past few years, she has been involved in creating an extensive data-base about labour lawsuits in Mexico, providing a rich set of information that can be used to analyse bargaining in litigation as well as many other issues such as enforcement, firing costs, and labour market discrimination. She also directs the Masters and Doctoral programs in Economics at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, and is presently a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Economics at Monash University.

Topic: Enforceability of Labour Law: Evidence from a Labour Court in Mexico

In this seminar, Professor Sadka will present the findings of a paper in which she and her colleague, David S. Kaplan, analysed lawsuits involving publicly-appointed lawyers in a labour court in Mexico to study the enforcement of a law that nominally provides high levels of worker protection. They show that, even after a judge rules in favour of the worker, the judgment goes uncollected 56% of the time due to the costs associated with the excessive formalism of the enforcement process. Differences in the probability of receiving compensation after trial are not due to differences in win rates at trial, but rather are entirely attributable to post-trial differences in the probability of enforcing the judgment. The paper is the first in the literature that demonstrates the importance of post-trial collection costs on litigation outcomes. The authors then develop a simple model of litigation that includes costs of collecting awards after trial and shows how differences in lawsuit outcomes across lawyers can be rationalized theoretically.

RSVP: leanne.hunt@buseco.monash.edu.au or 03 9903 4198 by Wednesday 11th March

If this particular educational activity is relevant to your immediate or long term needs in relation to your professional development and practice of the law, then you should claim one unit for each hour of attendance, refreshment breaks not included.

WCLRG is a research concentration in the Department of Business Law & Taxation at Monash University. Further details are available at: <http://www.buseco.monash.edu.au/depts/blt/clarg/index.php> or contact WCLRG's Director, Assoc. Prof. Anthony Forsyth - Anthony.Forsyth@buseco.monash.edu.au